



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
World Food Sunday  
Sunday, October 20, 2024  
Worship Service 10:30am**

NTC Pulpit Exchange  
Rev. Emily Gordon – Leaside United Church  
Jan Schlee – Co-presiding  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music  
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

2.

\*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in bold text.

## **Welcome and Acknowledgements**

### **\*Call To Worship[1]**

1: They went to Jesus and he asked them, "Who do you say I am?"

2: They answered, "You are the eschatological manifestation of the ground of our being, the kerygma through which we find meaning in our interpersonal relationship."

1: And Jesus said,

***"What?!"***

2: Faith doesn't have to be that hard.

***Life doesn't have to be that difficult.***

1: Sometimes, we just have to live God's love. Sometimes, we just have to live what we believe.

***And so we are here, simply,  
to sing,  
to celebrate,  
to worship God!***

### **\*Processional Hymn In Loving Partnership We Come**

VU #603

**In loving partnership we come,  
seeking, O God your will to do.  
Our prayers and actions now receive;  
we freely offer them to you.**

**We are the hands and feet of Christ;  
serving by grace each other's need.  
We dare to risk and sacrifice  
with truthful word and faithful deed.**

**Loving community we seek;  
your hope and strength within us move.  
The poor and rich, the strong and weak  
are brought together in your love.**

**In loving partnership, O God,  
help us your future to proclaim.  
Justice and peace be our desire,  
we humbly pray in Jesus' name.**

**\*Gathering Prayer[2]**

Wind-riding God,  
the blue skies, the sunshine,  
the cool breezes cradling falling leaves:  
all creation reminds us  
of the delicate Artist  
who has shaped us  
and all that is around us.

***We lift our songs  
of gratitude and awe to you.  
Servant-calling Jesus:  
you humble our arrogance  
with your acts of mercy;  
you tip over our pretensions  
with your modest nature;  
you laugh at our hunger for power  
with your words of grace.***

Heart-keeping Spirit:  
you bear our prayers  
to the throne of grace  
when they are only whispers  
in our souls;

***you unfold the road map  
to show us the way to the Kingdom;  
you transform our stuttering words  
into praise and wonder to our God.***

4.

**\*Introit** God in Heaven, Hear Our Prayer

E. Daley

God in heaven, hear our prayer,  
help all people everywhere  
to come closer together in plenty and need,  
and to make our world your home indeed.

**Scripture** Mark 10:35-45

**Anthem** All Thy Gifts of Love

David L. Brunner (b. 1953)

For food in a world where many walk in hunger,  
for peace in a world where many walk in fear,  
for friends in a world where many walk alone,  
we give you thanks, O God.

For health in a world where many walk in sickness,  
for joy in a world where many walk in grief,  
for friends in a world where many walk alone,  
we give you thanks, O God.

For love in a world where many walk in anger,  
light in a world where many walk in darkness,  
friends in a world where many walk alone,  
we give you thanks, O God.

For these and all the many things unspoken,  
for gifts unknown or, as of yet, unseen.  
For these and all thy gifts of love,  
we give thee thanks, O God.  
(Diocese of Huron and D. L. B.)

**Reflection** From Fear to Feast

Rev. Emily Gordon  
Leaside United Church

**Prayer of Confession**[3]

Compassionate God, we are filled with fear.  
Our fear is showing, and it is not pretty.  
It shows up as we access health care,  
as we discuss political affairs,

as we engage with justice issues,  
 as we interact with people we determine to be different from us.  
 We are afraid because we do not think there is enough love, enough resources,  
 and enough justice to go around.  
 Our fear has caused us to be angry and has reduced our generosity.  
 Our sin is fear based.  
 Compassionate God, take away our fear.  
 Free us to live and love with your generosity of spirit. Amen.

## **The Passing of the Peace**

### **Introduction of Offering**

#### **Offertory Anthem** The Hidden Stream That Feeds

E. Daley

The hidden stream that feeds  
 our daily acts of care,  
 springs forth in worship when Christ leads  
 the church in song and prayer.

*Lord, through our lives may others  
 hear your living waters drawing near.*

The stream runs clear and deep,  
 and tastes of heaven's skies,  
 and where its ceaseless currents sweep  
 flows life that never dies. *R*

A heart of stone and dust,  
 of withered hopes and dreams,  
 becomes a spring of faith and trust  
 by drinking from these streams. *R*

We leave this watered place  
 to work on rocky ground,  
 yet even there the streams of grace  
 sustain our daily round. *R*  
 (Thomas H. Troeger, 1945-2022)

6.

**\*Presentation of Offering**

In gratitude and humble trust  
We bring our best today,  
To serve your cause and share your love  
With all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
In Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Teach us to give ourselves each day  
Until life's work is done.

**Prayers of the People**

**\*Recessional Hymn** As a Fire is Meant for Burning

VU #578

As a fire is meant for burning  
with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission,  
giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations,  
finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners, we are teachers,  
we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers;  
we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions,  
we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit,  
we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime  
is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness  
mid earth's peoples, many-hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens  
when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance  
of God's new and glorious dawn.

### \*Prayer of Dedication[4]

Today, on World Food Day, we are thankful for a world blessed with abundance. Yet, we think of the hunger in our world and in our lives: hunger for food, for companionship, and for justice; hunger for shelter, for safety, and for your presence.

We pray that we and all our gifts may become the tangible solutions to meet these needs. Amen.

### \*Choral Commissioning

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

**May God's love surround you,  
may God's wisdom guide you,  
may God's light shine upon you,  
until we meet again.**

### Postlude

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[1] Based on Mark 8:27-38, written by Richard Bott. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2024, page 32. Used with permission.

[2] Thom Shuman, adapted, with permission.

[3] Written by Gary Simpson. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2024, page 36. Used with permission.

[4] Written by Fern Gibbard. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2024, page 47. Used with permission.



**Emily Gordon** completed a Honours BA (Mount Allison University), and a MA (Simon Fraser University) in English, before returning to her childhood home of Toronto. She received an MDiv from Emmanuel College, and followed this with a Clinical Pastoral Education unit at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Ministry experience prior to her ordination includes working as Children, Families, and Outreach Ministry Coordinator at Bloor Street United Church, a placement with Boarding Homes Ministry (an ecumenical inner city ministry based on creating caring community between members of congregations and residents of boarding homes), supply preaching at numerous congregations, and an internship at Kincardine United Church. Emily had an appointment with Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, before joining the team at Leaside United.

Emily loves creativity in worship, and strives to create spaces where all are welcomed and valued. How do we live out the big questions in our everyday actions? You will notice that she listens closely, asks questions, and continues to challenge the faith of herself and others. You will also notice that she loves to read, strives to live lightly on the earth, and enjoys tea and dark chocolate. You can contact Emily at: [emily@leasideuc.com](mailto:emily@leasideuc.com).

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**Video** – Pizza Boy Productions Inc.  
Josh Dela Cruz, Amanda Phillips

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